



HALLING

Primary School

Howsmere Close, Halling, Rochester, Kent, ME2 1ER

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1st September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you have all had a great Summer! We are really looking forward to welcoming all our children and families back to school on Thursday 2nd September. For our new Reception children, their first day at school is Monday 6th September.



We want to say a huge thank you and well done to you all for getting involved in our Summer Reading Challenge through our Twitter feed. If you haven't seen the collection of photographs, why not take a peek at our feed: [@HallingSch](#) and follow the hashtag: [#HallingSummerReadingBingo](#)

Next, a reminder on how the school day will operate from the first day of Term 1:

- The one-way system will **no longer be in operation**.
- The **school gates will open at 08:45** for all children where they will be greeted by an adult on their respective gate or at their classroom door – please see 'Year Group Drop-off and Pick-up Points' below.
- The **school day will start at 08:50** for all children so they should be in school and settled by this time.
- After 08:50, children will be classed as 'late' and will need to enter school via Main Reception.
- The school day will **finish at 15:15 for all children** – we know that some parents and carers have children in different year groups so please do not panic! Teachers will hold onto children at the end of the day.

Year Group Drop-off and Pick-up Points		
	Drop-off:	Pick-up:
Year R	Mini Wooden Year R Gate in Main Playground	Mini Wooden Year R Gate in Main Playground
Year 1	Side Gate opposite Main Reception (Office)	Classroom Door
Year 2	Side Gate opposite Main Reception (Office)	Classroom Door
Year 3	Big Playground Wooden Gate	Classroom Door
Year 4	Big Playground Wooden Gate	Classroom Door
Year 5	Double Doors by Hall	Double Doors by Hall
Year 6	Metal Gate adjacent to Year 6 Classrooms	Metal Gate adjacent to Year 6 Classrooms

Compassion • Integrity • Thankfulness • Respect • Resilience



PE KITS

We have had many queries over the last few days in respect of the children wearing their PE kits to school on PE days.

We have made the decision to continue with last term's PE kit system: all children in Year 1 to 6 are to wear their PE kit to school on their particular PE day(s).

However, this week, the children will not need to wear their PE kits to school. Your child's teacher will communicate their particular PE days with you, in preparation for the following week, in the year group newsletter.

May we take this opportunity to remind you that Halling's PE kit consists of:

Plain white PE T-Shirt
Black shorts
Trainers (Outdoor PE)
Plimsolls (Indoor PE)
Black or grey track suit (Outdoor PE)
Please note: earrings must be removed on PE days

It can be purchased at: <https://www.schooltrends.co.uk>

Thank you in advance for your support in ensuring that the children are wearing the correct kit and colours.

CHANGES TO GUIDANCE

When we return, it is no longer necessary to keep children in consistent bubbles. This means that children across the school will once again be able to mix and learn together. We will go back to our normal lunchtime and playtime arrangements and children will have access to more opportunities such as clubs (details to follow), visits/visitors and trips, etc.

Children are no longer required to isolate if they are a close contact of a positive case of COVID-19. Instead, they will be advised to take a PCR test and will only need to isolate if they receive a positive result. However, children should still isolate if they have symptoms of COVID-19, until they receive a negative result.

Asymptomatic testing remains an important part of our risk assessment and staff will continue to test regularly, including before returning to school in September.

WHAT TO DO IF YOUR CHILD HAS SYMPTOMS

The main symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)

- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

If your child has **any** of these symptoms, they need to [take a PCR test](#) (a test that is sent to a lab) to check if they have coronavirus and **must stay at home** until the result is received, even if the symptoms are mild. Please phone the school and let us know you are awaiting test results. If they test negative, they may return to school. Please inform the school of test results as soon as possible.

We will continue to send pupils home if they are showing any of the above symptoms.

WHAT HAPPENS IF YOUR CHILD TESTS POSITIVE?

If they test positive, their self-isolation period includes the day their symptoms started (or the day they had the test if they did not have symptoms) and the next 10 full days.

As with positive cases in any other setting, NHS Test and Trace, **not the school**, will contact the individual who has tested positive – or, depending on their age, their parent or legal guardian – to identify close contacts. A series of questions will be asked to help identify close, prolonged contacts. NHS Test and Trace will then contact those individuals and advise them to take a PCR test. They do not need to isolate if they are under 18 years old or fully vaccinated.

If the school is made aware of a positive case amongst our pupils, we will inform parents of children in their class ONLY. We will do this for information purposes only and pupils in that class should still come to school UNLESS they have symptoms.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Best wishes,



Mr Tim Muggridge
Executive Headteacher